

## **Cumann Staire Chondae Dhún na nGall**

### **County Donegal Historical Society's Schools' Competition 2017**

Theme: Adopt a Monument OR an Historical Building in your area.

The County Donegal Historical Society is encouraging you to one explore part of your past that is important to you and your own community. For this year's schools' competition we are asking you to have a look around and find and mind an archaeological monument or an historic building in your own area. It could even be your very own school if it is old enough! Other possible historic buildings could be mills, kilns, court houses, old schools, stately homes, banks, old hotels, the list is endless.

Imagine you are the original architect, designer, builder, and user of your chosen monument/building? What do you think your ancestors would think if they came back now to visit the place? How have historians recorded your choice of place? Try to locate old photographs, maps, illustrations, descriptions and drawings? Can you unearth any local lore/stories and/or family memories of the building/monument? What can your own community do to help preserve and protect this part of our built heritage into the future?

#### **General Guidelines:**

1. Application form to be supplied as separate document.
2. Hard and soft copy (MS Word/PowerPoint), Times New Roman, 12pt font, double-spacing, black.
3. All email correspondence to have name of School and project title in 'Subject' bar.
4. Competition only open to schools in Co. Donegal.

#### **Criteria:**

1. Choose an historic building or archaeological monument in your area.
2. Give a detailed description of same.
3. Can you let us know if there is public access to monument/building?
4. Include maps (historical, Archaeological Survey of Ireland, Discovery Series, tourist maps etc.), drawings, photographs (jpegs) and illustrations.
5. 3D models and constructions will be accepted as part of the overall project.
6. Research other sources of information such as the National Folklore Schools Collection. ([duchas.ie](http://duchas.ie))
7. Include any local traditions and stories about chosen monument or historic building.

#### **Format:**

- For class submissions (group minimum: 10 pupils); an eight-page A4-size presentation (max. word count: 2,000).
- For individual student's submissions: a four-page A4-size presentation (max. word count: 1,000).
- Each presentation should include articles that demonstrate historical or archaeological research, supported by evidence including sources/bibliography, photographs, drawings and illustrations.
- The research needs to be submitted, as an attachment, in electronic format.
- Entries can be in Irish or English.

**Submission:**

The project should be submitted in two formats along with the application form:

- A hard copy of the project (MS Word/PowerPoint/other media) should be posted to: County Donegal Historical Society's Schools' Competition 2017, c/o Ms. Una McGarrigle, Honorary Secretary, Parkhill, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal.
- An electronic version of the project (MS Word/PowerPoint) should be submitted, with name of School and Project title in 'Subject' bar. by e-mail to: [carnderryne@gmail.com](mailto:carnderryne@gmail.com)

**Queries:**

All queries can be submitted to the above email address.

No individual correspondence will be entered into.

A summary of queries will be posted on the 'Schools' page of the Donegal Historical Society's website.

**Closing date for queries is Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017.**

**The closing date for the receipt of entries is Wednesday, April 12, 2017.**

**No entries will be accepted after this date.**

**Assessment:**

- All entries will be assessed by a panel of judges selected by the Executive Committee of the County Donegal Historical Society.
- The criteria for evaluation used by the judges will be:
  - Evidence of historical research supported by evidence from a variety of sources (40%);
  - Clear and concise account(s) demonstrating original thought and understanding (20%);
  - Imaginative and creative content (20%);
  - Appropriate and varied presentation of information and evidence (15%); and
  - Overall impression (5%)

**The decision of the County Donegal Historical Society's judging panel will be final.**

**Prizes:**

Through the generous donations of its benefactors, the County Donegal Historical Society is able to sponsor the following prizes in the schools' competition for 2016:

**Harley-McDonagh Trophy & €300: Best Primary School Class Entry**

This award is named in honour of Hugh Harley, one of the original benefactors of the County Donegal Historical Society's schools' competition and former Wall Street financier, and J.C.T. McDonagh who served as President of the County Donegal Historical Society from 1958-1959.

**Fr. Jackie Fitzgerald Memorial Trophy & €300: Best Secondary School Class Entry**

This award is named in honour of Fr. Jackie Fitzgerald who was a historian, author and

County Donegal Historical Society member from Inishowen.

**Emerson Award & €100: Best Individual Primary Student Entry**

This award is named in honour of Lucius & Kathleen Emerson. Lucius Emerson was a founder member of the County Donegal Historical Society in 1946 and served as curator of the County Donegal Historical Society museum from 1946 until 2005. Kathleen Emerson served as Honorary Secretary of the County Donegal Historical Society from 1960 to 2004.

**Donald Mac Lochlainn Trophy & €200: Best Individual Secondary Student Entry**

This award is named in honour of Donald Mac Lochlainn who was a life-long friend of the County Donegal Historical Society and whose father served as President of the County Donegal Historical Society in 1950.

**Awards Ceremony:**

The County Donegal Historical Society's Schools' Competition awards ceremony will take place in Jackson's Hotel, Ballybofey on Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2017 at 7 p.m.

**County Donegal Historical Society:**

The County Donegal Historical Society was founded on the 20th December 1946 and its objective is to preserve and record the history of County Donegal. During the course of any year, the County Donegal Historical Society publishes the Donegal Annual, holds several field days, a coach outing, several lectures and other events as well as the schools' competition. Down the years, the Society has been responsible for initiating the Federation for Ulster Local Studies and for establishing a museum. Current membership of the Society is approximately 800 people. Further details about the County Donegal Historical Society are available at: [www.donegalhistory.com](http://www.donegalhistory.com) and on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/donegalhistorical](http://www.facebook.com/donegalhistorical)

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**All the best to all who enter the competition, and hope you have a great time exploring!**